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SUBJECT: KABILA ALLIES WIN MAJORITY OF EASTERN KASAI'S  
SEATS IN NATIONAL SENATE

11. (U) Results from the January 19 Senate elections in Eastern Kasai gave the pro-Kabila Alliance for the Presidential Majority (AMP) an overwhelming majority of seats in a region that includes areas that have been politically hostile towards Kabila. The People's Party for Reconstruction and Democracy (PPRD) won three of the province's 12 Senate seats, while Azarias Ruberwa's Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD), currently aligned with the AMP in provincial elections, won two. Other AMP coalition parties each winning one Senate position included the Convention of Unified Congolese (CCU), the League of Christian Democrats (LDC), and the Party of National Alliance for Unity (PANU), bringing the AMP total to at least eight.

12. (U) The AMP won the majority of seats thanks in large part to its current alliance with Ruberwa's RCD. AMP members came just shy of gaining the majority in the provincial legislature, winning just 27 of 61 seats in the October elections. The RCD won eight seats in Eastern Kasai, thereby giving the AMP-RCD coalition a ruling majority in the assembly.

13. (U) Notable winning candidates from the AMP include the alliance's national coordinator Andre Philippe Futa (PANU), President Kabila's chief of staff Leonard She Okitundu (PPRD), and Transitional Government Senator Raymond Omba Pene Djunga (LDC). Both Okitundu and Futa are widely mentioned as possible Senate Presidents.

14. (U) Only two candidates allied with Jean-Pierre Bemba's Union for the Nation (UN) coalition won seats: former presidential candidate Roger Lumbala of RCD-N and former MLC Transitional National Assembly deputy David Mutamba of the Democratic Convention for Development (CDD).

15. (U) Two independents were elected from Eastern Kasai. At least one, Jacques Tshimbombo Mukuna, who represented the RCD in the Transitional National Assembly, is a nominal ally of the AMP. The other elected independent, Willy Kakienge Nundwe, is a political newcomer.

16. (U) The one high-profile losing candidate in the Eastern Kasai Senate elections was U.S.-based physician and former presidential candidate Oscar Kashala. Running as a candidate from his Union for the Reconstruction of Congo (UREC) party, Kashala did not receive any votes in the balloting, although UREC has one member in Eastern Kasai's provincial assembly.

17. (SBU) Biographical information:

David Mutamba Dibwe (CDD)

Mutamba, 64, represented civil society in the Transitional Senate and later the MLC in the Transitional National Assembly. He was defeated in his run for the new National Assembly from Eastern Kasai. He participated in the Lutundula Commission's mission to Katanga. A former chief of staff to Leon Kengo wa Dondo, he also served as the president of mining parastatal SODIMICO and the CEO of the electricity parastatal SNEL. A native of Kamina, Katanga, he became a naturalized Belgian citizen in 1998. Born June 19, 1942.

Willy Kakiengde Nundwe (independent, affiliation unknown)

Kakiengde, 46, was elected as an independent candidate from the southern region of Lomami in Eastern Kasai. Born January 5, 1961.

Sebastien Matanda Mwidika (PPRD)

Matanda, 61, represented the political opposition in the Transitional National Assembly. He was also elected from the Lomami district of Eastern Kasai. Born December 28, 1945.

Pascal Kabeya Sabua (RCD)

Kabeya, 56, is secretary general of the SYTHAC labor union and a member of the executive committee of Union Network International (UNI)-Africa. Born September 11, 1950.

Leonard Anganda Mbutshu Luhata (CCU)

Anganda, 64, has served as professor of social sciences at the University of Kinshasa. Born December 28, 1942.

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Raymond Omba Pene Djunga (LDC)

Omba, 68, was Mobutu's first cabinet secretary after the 1965 coup d'etat. Born in the same village as Patrice Lumumba, he was trained at Belgium's royal military academy. In September 1975 he was accused of plotting a coup against Mobutu and condemned to death. After serving four years in prison, he became a businessman and administered several development projects. Omba participated in the Sovereign National Conference and later served as Minister of Public Works from 1994-1996. He founded the League of Christian Democrats and represented Eastern Kasai in the Transitional Senate, where he chaired the defense and security committee. Born April 8, 1938.

Leonard She Okitundu (PPRD)

She Okitundu, 60, is Kabila's current chief of staff. A member of the same Tetela tribe as Patrice Lumumba, he holds a law degree from the University of Lausanne. He spent most of his adult years in exile in Switzerland following Mobutu's coup, working as a human rights activist and lawyer. He returned to the Congo in 1996 after being recruited by Laurent Kabila to serve on his diplomatic staff. Named Minister of Human Rights, he later became Foreign Minister in 2000, retaining the position under Joseph Kabila until 2003. He led the government delegation during the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and is a signatory of the 2003 Sun City Accords. Born March 20, 1946.

Adalbert Otshumampita Aloki (RCD)

Otshumampita, 62, has been a professor at the National Medical School (ISTM) and head of the law faculty at the International University of Congo. He previously served as an adviser to the Ministry of Higher Education and director general of ISTM before being dismissed for embezzlement. Born February 11, 1944.

Andre Philippe Futa (PANU)

Futa, 58, is the national coordinator of the AMP and is president of the Party of National Alliance for Unity (PANU). He is a member of the traditional Kasaian royal families of Bena Mbayi and Bakwa Dishu, holding the title of traditional chief of the Bakwa Dishu clan. He holds several advanced degrees, including a Masters in agro-economics from the University of Florida, and a doctorate in economics from Oklahoma State University. He served in many different positions with the African Development Bank, including interim director from 1995-1996 and Eastern Africa director from 1999-2001. Under Laurent and later Joseph Kabila, he served as Minister of Agricultural Development (2001-2002), Minister of Economy (2002-2003), and Minister of Finance (2003-2005). He was elected chairman of the board of governors of the World Bank and IMF for the Congo in 2004. Born August 26, 1948.

Benoit Ngeleka Kanguvu (PPRD)

Ngeleka, 65, was a member of the Transitional National Assembly. Born August 8, 1941.

Roger Lumbala (RCD-N)

Lumbala, 48, is the national president of the Rally for Congolese Democracy-National (RCD-N) and a spokesman for Bemba's Union for the Nation alliance. A co-founder of Ruberwa's RCD, he split from the party in 2000 to form RCD-N, which allied with Bemba's MLC and received military support from Uganda. He is a former member of Etienne Tshisekedi's Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS). He later joined Laurent Kabila's AFDL march across the country to topple Mobutu, before turning against him in 1997. He holds a degree in education and served as the Minister of External Trade in the Transitional Government before being ousted on corruption charges. He unsuccessfully ran for president in 2006. Though he won a seat in the National Assembly, the Supreme Court annulled his victory for attempts at voter fraud. Born April 13, 1958.

Jacques Tshimbombo Mukuna (independent, presumably allied with Kabila/AMP)

Tshimbombo, 60, represented the RCD-G in the Transitional

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National Assembly, but ran as an independent candidate for Senate. He held several positions under Mobutu, including Minister of Sports and Youth and the last director of the National Service for Intelligence and Protection (SNIP). He also held the position of governor of Kinshasa from 1985-1986. He returned to the Congo from six years of exile in 2003, founding the Union for Republican Renewal, which is allied with the RCD-G. Born June 12, 1946.

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